

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1-39 (Cancelled)

40. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid having at least 80% nucleic acid sequence identity to:

(a) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:9);

(b) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:9), lacking its associated signal peptide;

(c) the nucleic acid sequence shown in Figure 3 (SEQ ID NO:8);

(d) the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence shown in Figure 3 (SEQ ID NO:8); or

(e) the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203406;

wherein said isolated nucleic acid encodes a polypeptide having the ability to induce c-fos expression.

41. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 40 having at least 85% nucleic acid sequence identity to:

(a) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:9);

(b) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:9), lacking its associated signal peptide;

(c) the nucleic acid sequence shown in Figure 3 (SEQ ID NO:8);

(d) the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence shown in Figure 3 (SEQ ID NO:8); or

(e) the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203406;

wherein said isolated nucleic acid encodes a polypeptide having the ability to induce c-fos expression.

42. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 40 having at least 90% nucleic acid sequence identity to:

(a) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:9);

(b) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:9), lacking its associated signal peptide;

(c) the nucleic acid sequence shown in Figure 3 (SEQ ID NO:8);

(d) the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence shown in Figure 3 (SEQ ID NO:8); or

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(e) the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203406;  
wherein said isolated nucleic acid encodes a polypeptide having the ability to induce c-fos expression.

43. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 40 having at least 95% nucleic acid sequence identity to:

(a) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:9);

(b) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:9), lacking its associated signal peptide;

(c) the nucleic acid sequence shown in Figure 3 (SEQ ID NO:8);

(d) the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence shown in Figure 3 (SEQ ID NO:8); or

(e) the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203406;

wherein said isolated nucleic acid encodes a polypeptide having the ability to induce c-fos expression.

44. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 40 having at least 99% nucleic acid sequence identity to:

(a) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:9);

(b) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:9), lacking its associated signal peptide;

(c) the nucleic acid sequence shown in Figure 3 (SEQ ID NO:8);

(d) the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence shown in Figure 3 (SEQ ID NO:8); or

(e) the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203406;

wherein said isolated nucleic acid encodes a polypeptide having the ability to induce c-fos expression.

45. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid comprising:

(a) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:9);

(b) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:9), lacking its associated signal peptide;

(c) the nucleic acid sequence shown in Figure 3 (SEQ ID NO:8);

(d) the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence shown in Figure 3 (SEQ ID NO:8); or

(e) the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203406.

46. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 45 comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:9).

47. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 45 comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:9), lacking its associated signal peptide.

48. (Cancelled)

49. (Cancelled)

50. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 45 comprising the nucleic acid sequence shown in Figure 3 (SEQ ID NO:8).

51. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 45 comprising the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence shown in Figure 3 (SEQ ID NO:8).

52. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 45 comprising the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203406.

53. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid that hybridizes under stringent conditions to:

(a) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:9);

(b) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:9), lacking its associated signal peptide;

(c) the nucleic acid sequence shown in Figure 3 (SEQ ID NO:8);

(d) the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence shown in Figure 3 (SEQ ID NO:8); or

(e) the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203406;

wherein the stringent conditions comprise:

50% formamide;

5 x SSC (0.75 M NaCl, 0.075 M sodium citrate);

50 mM sodium phosphate (pH 6.8);

0.1% sodium pyrophosphate;

5 x Denhardt's solution;

sonicated salmon sperm DNA (50 micrograms/ml)

0.1% SDS, and 10% dextran sulfate at 42°C;

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washes at 42°C in 0.2 x SSC (sodium chloride/sodium citrate) and 50% formamide at 55°C; and  
a high-stringency wash consisting of 0.1 x SSC containing EDTA at 55°C.

54. (Cancelled)

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56. (Previously Presented) A vector comprising the nucleic acid of Claim 40.

57. (Previously Presented) The vector of Claim 56, wherein said nucleic acid is operably linked to control sequences recognized by a host cell transformed with the vector.

58. (Previously Presented) A host cell comprising the vector of Claim 56.

59. (Previously Presented) The host cell of Claim 58, wherein said cell is a CHO cell, an *E. coli* or a yeast cell.